Message Text

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13

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OMB-01 IGA-02 AID-20 EB-11 DRC-01 L-03 SS-15

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P R 210855Z SEP 73 FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4356 INFO DIA CINCEUR

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EO 11652: GDS TAGS: MASS, LE

SUBJECT: STATUS LEBANESE ARMY FMS CREDITS

- 1. AS LEBANESE ARMY STILL MAINTAINING WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION USE 1972 FMS CREDIT, CHARGE CALLED ON SECRETARY
 GENERAL MINISTRY OF FINANCE KHALIL SALEM TO DETERMINE
 STATUS OF CREDIT. SALEM CLAIMED THAT AUTHORIZATION USE
 CREDIT HAD BEEN HELD UP FIRST BY CABINET CHANGE IN JULY
 AND THEN BY NECESSITY OBTAIN EXEMPTION FROM
 TAXATION OF INTEREST INVOLVED WITH CREDIT. SUCH EXEMPTION
 WAS APPROVED SOME THREE WEEKS AGO AND DECISION SHOULD HAVE BEEN
 RELAYED TO MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WHO WOULD THEN HAVE AUTHORIZED
 COMMITMENT OF CREDIT. UNFORTUNATELY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
 SECRETARIAT NEVER TRANSMITTED DECISION TO DEFENSE MINISTER.
- 2. IN CHARGE'S PRESENCE SALEM OBTAINED AGREEMENT SECRETARY GENERAL PRIME MINISTRY TO TRANSMIT DECISION TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE WHILE LATTER AGREED TO AUTHORIZE ARMY TO COMMIT CREDIT WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER HE HAD RECEIVED DECISION. LEBANESE ARMY SHOULD THUS BE ABLE TO USE 1972 AND CREDIT SHORTLY.
- 3. SALEM INDICATED THAT GOL STILL WORKING ON 1973 CREDIT CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT AS HE WAS NOT FULLY FAMILIAR WITH DETAILS HE PREFERRED

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DISCUSS MATTER AFTER HIS RETURN FROM NAIROBI IBRD MEETING.
3. PLEASE INFORM AMBASSADOR BUFFUM. HOUGHTON
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NNN

Message Attributes

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Subject: STATUS LEBANESE ARMY FMS CREDITS

TAGS: MASS, LE To: STATE

Type: TE

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